

POINT BLINK

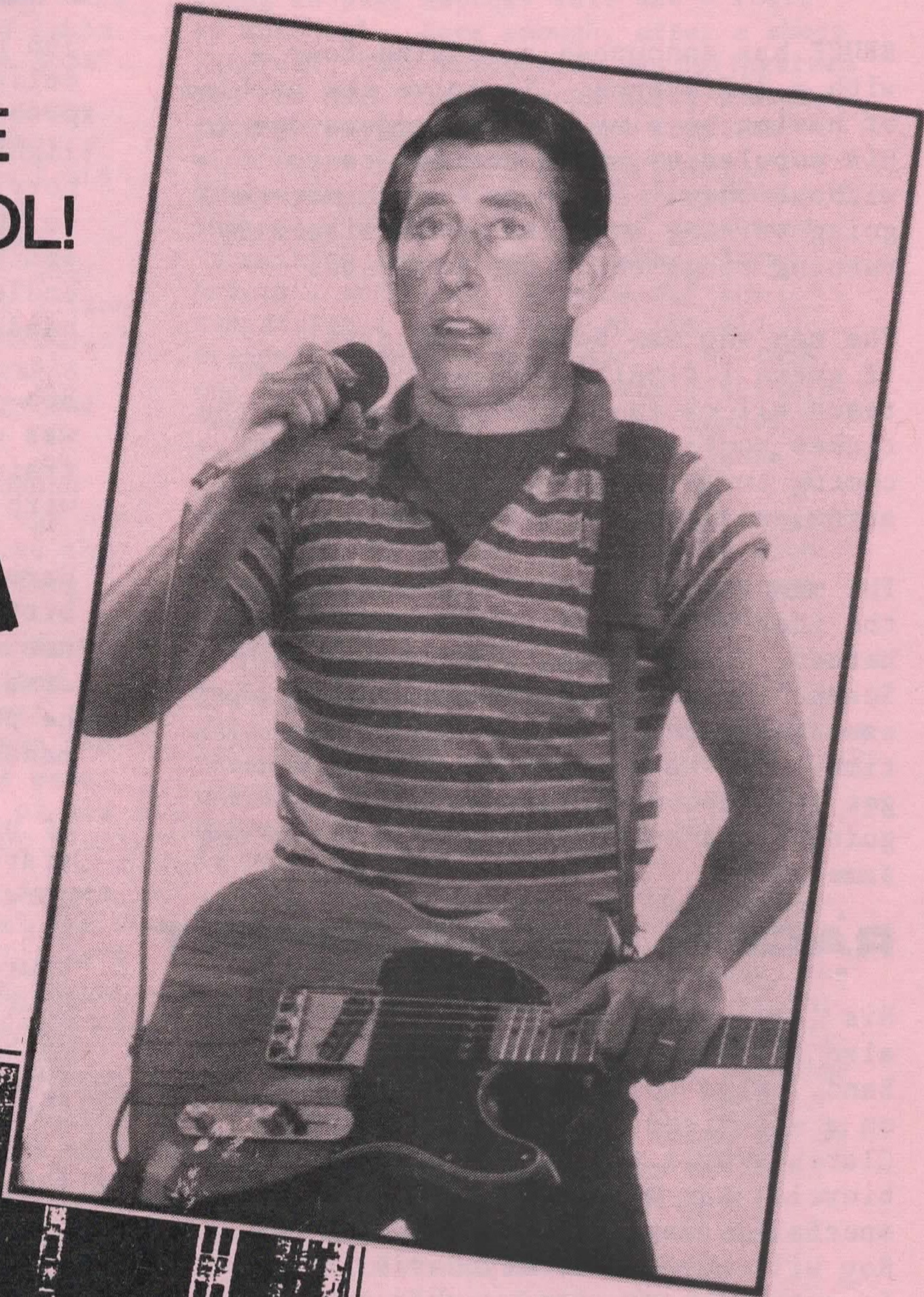
APRIL 1988

You better look hard and look twice...

FROM BOSS TO PRINCE?

SPOT THE
ROYAL FOOL!

BRUCE: THE FORGOTTEN SHOWS OF '78



September 2nd, 1978

SOME PEOPLE have all the luck, part 95:

Two days after he queued overnight at the Hammersmith Odeon to secure third row Springsteen tickets (no press freebies), our very own Tony Parsons was assigned to review said future of rock and roll at the Palladium in Noo Yawk in two week's time. Hard world, innit...

Contrary to reports in last week's daily papers, Debbie Harry and Chris Stein are not getting married. Surely the over-publicised 'nuptials' weren't a figment of publicist Alan Edwards' much called-upon imagination? ... A ho Debbie is none too keen on our very own Danny Baker after last week's singles column in which Dan gave the thumbs-down to the new Blondie single "Picture This". For "Blondie Bashies Baker" and other assorted scam, see page seven...

Idle Threats Dept. Backstage at recent *Vicious White Kids* soiree, Sid made a nunny of himself by demanding lensman Denis O'Regan's *Dire Straits* badge as payment for a snap. When Den obliged, Sid — ever the gent — upped his price to £1. If not, he'd smash his camera. When Den refused, Sid — noble chap — asked for a fiver. The ever-present Nancy's attempts to restrain her other half were to no avail, and as a tottering Sid loomed large over Den, Rich Kids' manager Peter Warmesley offered to hand over £5. "Each", demanded Sid. And so it was, each musician coming away with an extra...



T-ZER

JOINS THE QUEUE

"Road To Ruin" the Ramones' live album for release in Europe (including the UK), Japan and Australia only, is now scheduled for late autumn release...

Losers Repent Sings...

DJ Jerry Floyd liable for prosecution in a case of A.B.H. (Actual Bodily Harm to all you pansies) following a brawl with his flat-mate.

BORN TO STAND STILL...
As darkness left the edge of town, the sun rose on nearly 2000 bedraggled spirits in the streets (enough - Ed.) Assorted NME hacks mingle with members of Joe Public last Sunday morning for a chance at the Springsteen tickets. Roy Carr is the one with the hat...

According to a report in last week's *Evening News*, Billy Idol has shacked up with Des O'Connor's daughter Kares. What is it with these punks? What with Gold...

ODEON HAMMERSMITH

HARVEY GOLDSMITH ENTERTAINMENTS
ON BEHALF OF JON LANDAU MANAGEMENT
PRESENTS

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN
& THE E STREET BAND

SATURDAY, OCT. 14th, 1978
EVENING 8:00p.m.

STALLS £5:00
BLOCK

18

SEAT

047

No tickets exchanged nor money refunded
THIS PORTION TO BE RETAINED

BRUCE PLANS MARATHON TOUR

This one will REALLY run and run...

Report by TOBY SHURE

BRUCE has announced a massive tour - with a difference. To solve the problem of having to play giant stadiums due to his popularity, he's decided to do without them. No stage this time; he's going to sing and play while literally running rings round his audience.

The man who was born to run says: 'I guess I finally figured out how to reach all my fans equally, and beat the ticket touts too. Instead of my fans coming to me, I'll run past them! No arena, so no tickets - and no scalpers!'

The man they call the Boss said he got the idea while listening to one of his heroes, Roy Orbison, singing 'Running Scared'. Bruce was working out on the exercise machine in his gym at the time. Now he's training full-time to get in shape to run, sing and play guitar (and sometimes harmonica) at the same time.

RACING WITH E STREET

His 'Racing In The Street' tour will also feature the legendary E Street Band. Nils Lofgren will follow Bruce on a motorised trampoline on wheels; Clarence will play sax while riding his bicycle; Max will play his drums on a specially adapted tractor; Danny and Roy will have their keyboards installed in a custom-converted double-decker bus, one deck each; Garry will play bass from his skateboard; and Patti's going to sing on roller-skates.

Nils added, between practising his backflips, 'It's great because we can all keep fit while we play, and our keenest fans can follow us for as long as they like.'

While not commenting on the fitness aspect, the rest of the band are said to be overjoyed at the prospect of all the suntanning time they'll get.

Jon Landau, Bruce's manager, is delighted. 'It kinda solves the problems of transport, hall bookings, lighting, you know. All we need is a corridor of security guys for the band to run through and a bunch of speakers set up along the route in a kind of endless chain,' he said, rubbing his hands happily.

Bob 'Bulldog' Wein, head of security, was unavailable for comment; he was training reluctantly for keeping up with the runaway success of his Boss.

Harvey Goldsmith, the promoter, was bitterly disappointed at the idea of not using tickets. 'It'll cost me two arms and two legs, know what I mean?' he puffed, jogging to see his bank manager.

At presstime no starting point or duration had been set for the unique tour, but knowing Bruce's energy, he could be running all over the world.

The first date is April 1.

Be seeing you!

?!?!?



◆ When Bruce Springsteen buys a bandanna, it costs about \$1.30. If it finds its way into the marketplace after he's worn it, it's worth \$300.

THE FUTURE OF ROCK'N'ROLL IS BACK!

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN & THE E STREET BAND
Hammersmith Odeon

SPRINGSTEEN screamed softly; a high-pitched, soulful yell straight out of the R'n'B textbook. Two numbers into the first of his sell-out engagements at Hammersmith and he'd already shaken the audience alive and taken control; no wonder they call him "the Boss".

As if at a signal, the E Street Band swung into "10th Avenue Freeze-Out", and after a couple of verses Springsteen leaped - I kid you not - into the dancing crowd. The security had given up after the initial onslaught, a powerhouse rendition of "Good Rockin' Tonight" followed with barely a chord change by the crackling, anthemic "Badlands", fired with Springsteen's own considerable lead guitar work, sizzling with energy and electricity.

By this time the normally reserved London punters were on their feet, punching the air with Bruce on the chorus. It felt like the encores, but Springsteen was just getting warmed up. Within three songs he had transformed the gloomy Odeon into a sweaty club, and such was the sense of intimacy that you lost all sense of any barrier between stage and seats. Having broken the ice, the New Jersey rocker slowed the pace with the dramatic, proud title track of his latest album, "Darkness On The Edge Of Town".

Just when you thought it was safe to forget about Bruce Springsteen (remember him? The future of rock'n'roll, the new Dylan?), he's come back with a vengeance. As if the hype and overkill of '75 and his first disastrous British visit weren't enough (when he was slaughtered by the press which built him up), he suffered a lengthy lawsuit with his old manager, and you could hardly be blamed for thinking that was it. The "Darkness..." LP, arriving relatively unannounced back in June, seemed disappointing on the turntable: bitter and depressing (no wonder) compared to the heady joy-rides and orchestral operatics of "Born To Run". Tonight, Springsteen played most of the new album, a calculated risk which worked, energising the songs with an urgency and passion that transfigured the recorded versions, sounding fresher and fuller than the vinyl. A prime example (and undoubted highlight) was a killer "Prove It All Night", which I'd dismissed as merely a throwaway single. Just one of the things it proved was the uncanny ability and unity of the E Street Band, building from a deceptive piano intro to an overwhelming crescendo that left the ecstatic listeners gasping amid thunderous applause.

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After an hour and a half the band joined hands and made as if to leave, but Bruce urged the crowd to stay because he was going to play another full set - roars of approval. Sure enough, after a short interval, they reappeared and Springsteen led the huge black saxophonist, Clemons, into a rousing instrumental complete with Duane Eddy-type guitar solo. Obviously pleased with the reception this time around, the "Boss" announced "something special we've never played before", and began churning out the unmistakable guitar riff of the old Standells song "Dirty Water". He sang one line differently from the original: "London, you're my town!" and London loved it. Numerous other highlights included his hits written for the Pointer Sisters ("Fire") and Patti Smith ("Because The Night"), fitting in with the other newer material perfectly and easily surpassing the better known versions.

Three giant leaps for mankind next: the anguished "Backstreets", the rollercoaster "Rosalita", and the classic "Born To Run" uniting the audience and chilling the spine with its power. Maybe the future is here and now, after all.

Finally, the real encores: "Jungleland", a mini-movie with its vivid imagery and gorgeous sax solo; another new song, the Searchers-like rocker "Ties That Bind"; and just to make sure everyone was well and truly exhausted, one of the all-time great party tunes, "Quarter To Three". We couldn't have taken much more, but we stood and screamed anyway and at last Springsteen came back, dragging the drained band on, and somehow we danced through "Twist And Shout", Beatles style. And this was only the first night of five.

Three hours after their entrance, Bruce and his E Street Band bowed out proud and happy, and deservedly so. Their second coming had proved a triumph, blowing away the doubts and establishing them as one of the most exciting live acts around. If you didn't have tickets, I hope for your sake you won't have to wait another three years to see Bruce Springsteen - but even if you do, it'll be worth it.

NED F CHRAN
Zero Range
November 1978

HARVEY GOLDSMITH ENTERTAINMENTS PRESENTS

Highlight of the week is undoubtedly the return of Bruce Springsteen to London after an absence of nearly three years. He finished a marathon four-month, 80-date U.S. tour last week, and will be performing his usual two-part American set during his short European tour. With recent gigs running past three hours in length, British fans are in for a special treat. Springsteen plays Hammersmith Odeon three nights in a row starting this Monday (9), with two more next week. Needless to say, they're all sell-outs.

**BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN
& THE E STREET BAND****HAMMERSMITH ODEON****OCTOBER 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 AT 8:00 P.M.**

NO SUPPORT ACT
Tickets £5 £4 £3
On sale to personal
applicants only, and
limited to four per
person. Box Office
opens Sun. Aug. 27
at 10:00 a.m.

Special thanks to Mike "Forger" Saunders
for the '78 tour that never happened!